GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1581
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2006
INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH .
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has recently decided to make huge investments in the strengthening of agricultural research in the country;

(b) If so, the details in this regard;

(c) The details of agricultural research institutes functioning in the country and the quantum of assistance to be provided to them;

(d) Whether the Government proposes to take the help of foreign expertise in agricultural research; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): The Government have accorded the approval to the World Bank assisted National Agricultural Innovation Project with an outlay of Rs.1200 crore approximately for a period of six years. The allocation for the current financial year is Rs.100 crore.

(c) Under ICAR, there are 95 Agricultural Research Institutes conducting research on Crops, horticulture, Natural Resource Management, Animal Science, Fisheries and Agricultural Engineering etc. and are located in various parts of the country. The Plan BE for 2006-07 of DARE/ICAR is Rs.1350 crore.

(d) & (e): The Governments of India and United States of America have jointly agreed for launching of a Indo-US Knowledge Initiative on Agriculture focused on promoting Education, Teaching, Research, Service and Commercial Linkage. The priority areas for future cooperation are:-

(i) Human Resources and Institutional Capacity-Building Education, learning resources, curriculum development and training.

(ii) Agri-Processing and Marketing Food processing Use of byproduct and bio-fuels

(iii) Emerging Technologies Biotechnology

(iv) Natural Resource Management Water Management

The allocation for the current financial year is Rs.5 crore.